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Message Text

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45
ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 NEA-06 EUR-10 AF-04 EA-07 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 SS-14 NSC-07 SP-02 L-02 PRS-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IOE-00 DRC-01 /079 W
---------- 040802
O 081522Z OCT 74
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5180
INFO USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 8964

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG CO UNGA
SUBJ: COLOMBIAN CONSULTATION ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION

1. COLOMBIAN FONMIN LIEVANO SUMMONED ME TO HIS OFFICE LAST NIGHT TO DISCUSS PALESTINIAN QUESTION ARISING IN UNGA. HE READ ME CABLED INFO FROM COLOMBIAN DEL IN UN STATING THAT QUESTION OF PERMITTING REPS OF ORGANIZATIONS FROM PORTUGUESE AFRICAN COLONIES, OF NAMIBIA INDEPENDENCE GROUPS, AND OF PALESTINIAN ORGANIZATIONS (NOT OTHERWISE IDENTIFIED) TO APPEAR BEFORE UN WOULD COME UP FOR VOTE MONDAY OR TUESDAY OF NEXT WEEK. COLOMBIAN DEL BELIEVES THERE ARE SUFFICIENT VOTES FOR QUESTION TO PASS. COLOMBIAN UN DEL IS RECOMMENDING AFFIRMATIVE VOTE WHICH IT SAYS IS CONSISTENT WITH COLOMBIA'S PAST POSITIONS.

2. MINISTER WAS CONCERNED PRIMARILY ABOUT THE PALESTINIAN GROUPS AND IMPACT WHICH PERMITTING THEM TO APPEAR IN DEBATE MIGHT HAVE ON MIDEAST QUESTION AND BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID ISRAELI AMBASSADOR HAD ALREADY BEEN IN TO REQUEST COLOMBIA'S VOTE IN OPPOSITION. MIN SAID COLOMBIA ANXIOUS NOT TO CONTRIBUTE TO TROUBLESOME SITUATION AND HE WONDERED WHAT MIGHT BE DONE. HE ASKED FOR OUR ANALYSIS AND WHAT OUR POSITION WOULD BE ON VOTE. I SAID I DID NOT HAVE UP-TO-DATE INFO ON THIS SPECIFIC QUESTION. IN GENERAL OUR POSITION HAS BEEN THAT UN MEMBERS SHOULD TRY TO AVOID POLEMICAL DEBATE WHICH MIGHT JEOPARDIZE DELICATE NEGO-
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TIATIONS. MIN OBSERVED THAT ISSUE WAS NEVERTHELESS UPON US AND

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APPARENTLY THERE WERE SUFFICIENT VOTES TO CARRY IT. HE ASKED IF I COULD GET INFO AS TO HOW WE SAW THE MATTER AND WHAT OUR POSITION WOULD BE, AND INFORM HIM PRIOR TO FRIDAY. HE SAID, "I HAVE BEEN VERY FRANK WITH YOU; I HOPE YOU WILL BE FRANK WITH ME". I REPLIED THAT I WOULD REQUEST THE INFO.

3. COMMENT: I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING INFO FOR RELAY TO LIEVANO BY COB THURS OCT 10. THE MIN HAS BEEN VERY COOPERATIVE WITH US AND SOUGHT OUT OUR VIEWS AND GUIDANCE IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE. IN ADDITION TO THE SUBSTANTIVE MERITS OF THIS PARTICULAR CONSULTATION, RESPONSIVENESS ON OUR PART WILL HELP CONSOLIDATE OUR GENERAL RELATIONSHIP HERE. THE MINISTER IS CONSULTING THROUGH US IN ORDER TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO HIS UN DEL. I HAD THE IMPRESSION HE DID NOT PARTICULARLY WANT HIS DEL TO KNOW HE WAS DOING THAT. HENCE I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THE REPLY COULD COME THROUGH US AND NOT THROUGH USUN AT THIS POINT.
VAKY

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